THE ADVOCATE.

PHILADELPHIA EDITORS.

NEWSPAPER CHIEFTAINS KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

Columnt Clayton McMichael's Record on a Journalist and Man of Affairs-Colonel McClure's Physical Vigor and Literary Power-Versattle John Rassell Young. (Copyright, 1801, by American Press Association.)

If a Philadelphian were asked to point out three of the brightest lights in the journalistic profession in the Quaker City he would at once name Colonel Clayton McMichael, Colonel Alexander K. McClure and John Russell Young. There are half a dozen others who are well known abroad and at home, but the

trio mentioned constitute a group of



COLONEL CLAYTON M'MICHAEL. Their fame is not bounded by any city or state lines. All three are entertaining talkers and-without any discredit to their eratorical powers-still better writers. Each in his turn has enjoyed the confidence and friendship, and, in at least two cases, the affection of a president of the United States in their journey through life they rubbed journey through life they up against greatness and with many master minds.

Colonel Clayton McMichael, the editor and proprietor of The North American, was once described as "the youngest editor of the oldest daily." That was some years ago-not so many either. He is still in the prime of a vigorous manhood, but the silver threads are beginning to appear here and there. Colonel McMichael is a "working" journalist in the fullest sense of that frequently misused term. He generally reaches The North American office about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. It is not until the state house bell has tolled the hour of 2 in the morning that he finally leaves his sanctum. He has two "dens." One is on the first floor, in the rear of the business office. He generally receives visitors there during the afternoon. The other is in the sky parlor of the building, where he does his writing in the evening.

Colonel McMichael is a man of pleasing address. A stranger is at once struck with his case and grace and gentlemanly manner. He talks sincerely and vigorously, and has an emphatic style of expressing himself that can leave no doubt as to what he means to say. He has what are sometimes called "speaking When his gaze first rests upon you it seems to penetrate through and through, but just about the time you are considering the advisability of retreating the eyes light up with a kindly and reassuring glance and you feel that you are at home and with a friend.

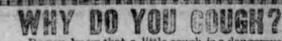
The last time ex-President Cleveland visited Philadelphia some one menstantly the ex-president exclaimed: "Tell Colonel McMichael I was asking for him. Don't forget to convey to him my very best regards." Thereby haugs a tale. Every one acquainted with life at the national capital remembers Colora i McMichael'a reign as marshal of the Universal Columbia, President Arthur, who has himself been aptly described as "the first gentleman of his tinge," while he selected Colonel Mc-Michael for the post, solucted a congonial gentleman who was also his warm personal friend. The position of marshal of the district at that time was raised to a plane that it had never reached before and that it has never atbanad since. When Mr. Cleveland asannual the presidency he found Colonel McMichael's resignation on his desk. He person to accept it and asked as a Payor that the marshal serve out the remainder of his term -a matter of a few



COLONER ALEXANDER & MCGURE

months. At the end of that time the president was so well pleased with the manner in which the place was filled cans be unsed the colonel to remain, but in vain. Since that time, however, the

Colonal McMichael lives in elegant gels on Work Walant street. He is nd of social life and enjoys the theater. to has had a military cureer that any man using to provide the was twice sounded in backle. He is a fluorit after talker, and as a writer his pro-



Do you know that a little cough is a dangerous Are you aware that it often fastens on the lungs and far too often runs into Consumption and ends in Death? People suffering from Asthma. Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Consumption will all

Can you afford to neglect it? Can you trifle with so serious a matter? Are you aware that

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Colonel Alexander McClure, the editor of The Times, enjoys the distinction of having many enemies. For all this, no one among his contemporaries has a greater influence or wields more power than Colonel McClure. He stands over ix feet in height, is straight as an arrow, and in the masculine meaning of the word is really a handsome man. He has a powerful personality that gives a more than ordinary value to what he writes, A little more than ten years ago, when the McLaughiie Bros, founded The Times, McClore was made the editor in chief. The value of a name may be appreciated when it is stated that from that day to this the paper has been middle million, known as "McClure's Times."

Colonel McClure is just entering the An Englishman autumn of life. The snow white hair and mustache, however, should not be overestimated, because the colonel's heart is young and gay and his nature as fresh and green as it wastwenty years ago. The petty cares of life apparently give him little worry and he strolls along Chestnut street unconcernedly looking over the heads of ordinary people. There is a magnetism about his eye and voice that captures a great

Colonel McClure is very fond of rural life and generally spends about six months of each year on his ten acre farm near Wallingford, in the suburbs of Philadelphia. The colonel claims that he is a farmer, but his friends ridicule the idea. They say the only things he cultivates are sarcasm, irony and invective. Be that as it may, the air of Wallingford generally brings the roses to the colo-

nel's checks. He is a brilliant and audacious writer, and has the credit of knowing more about inside politics than any man in Pennsylvania. Strange as it may seem, the managers of both parties and the leaders of independent movements have all been in the habit of going to him for advice and guidance. See York, got his education there and at White Plains, and then passed a year in the Old World averaging the control of the Old World averaging the Old World avera advice and guidance. Such is the versatility of his nature that they have all departed satisfied. The fact that he is sometimes hopelessly in the minority never disturbs the equanimity of Colonel McClure's mind. He has a logical and convincing manner of presenting his case—whatever that case may be. He spends from eight to ten hours a day at tells us, it appeared in the next number his office, is an inveterate tobacco chewer

and is passionately fond of the theater. John Russell Young, the editor of The Evening Star, is prouder of the fact that to literature. he is a Philadelphian than of anything else in his career. He helped to found The Star about twenty years ago, and did he make any great success till he then spent eighteen years in holding issued the "Life of Horace Greeley" in diplomatic positions, executing delicate 1855. Thirty-five thousand copies were government and newspaper missions and girdling the globe. About a year ago still in some demand. In 1857 he issued the old love asserted itself. He went the "Life and Times of Aaron Burr;" in back, and is now at the helm of The 1860 the "Life of Andrew Jackson;" "Ben Star once more. He is a born journal-



HON. JOHN RUSSELL YOUNG.

ist, and his writings exhibit a purity and finish that is very rare in newspaper work these days. He has the necessary knack of grasping a thought quickly. This was illustrated even in his youth. When Young was fifteen years of ago to Massachusetts there was a "complica-The Press advertised for a "copy boy," There were fifty applicants. Each was legalizing the marriage, but Governor handed a bit of Colonel John W. Forney's copy to decipher. No one that has however, was valid in both states. His not gazed upon that copy can imagine what a mass of unintelligible hieroglyphics it was. Young was the one aboy and a girl, of fourteen and twelve boy in the crowd able to read it. He was engaged at five dollars a week. A month later, through his aptitude in re- active and valued citizen. porting a chance fire, he was made a reporter. He has been in the newspaper usiness from that day to this.

He was in Paris during the troublesome days of the commune, and wrote a He was born in County Clare, Ireland, ten column account of that affair. Wendell Phillips said that for purity of English and vividness of narrative it was unexcelled by the productions of Macaulay. Mr. Young is short and chunky, and walks along the street in a half musing, half abstracted manner. For some time past he has been running a series of articles in The Star on "Men and Memories," giving his impressions and personal recollections of such eminent people as Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett, Roscoe Conkling, Abraham Lincoln and Cardinal McCloskey. His success as United States minister to China is too well known for any ex-

HIS BOOKS WERE POPULAR.

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James Parton was beyond question the most popular historian of his time with the great middle class. At least 10,000,-000 adult Americans never think of laboring through Bancroft and rarely look at Hildreth, yet want something far better than school histories and semiromantic VERY

sketches of their great men, such as the Weems biografor instance. For all such Parton was the ideal writer. He wrote for the and he did it well. by birth, he was as intensely American as any native; an unbeliever in revealed religion, he

JAMES PARTON.

charmed the most orthodox, and while his views on such exciting subjects as slavery, war and the tariff were extreme even to the verge of fanaticism, he wrote biographies of Aaron Burr, Horace Greeley and Andrew Jackson that charmed men of all parties, destroyed half the old federalist prejudice against Thomas Jefferson, and almost interested southerners in Ben Butler as a gentleman and philanthropist. What is equally remarkable, he violated some of the strongest social rules without losing caste, and wrote a eulogistic life of Voltaire without exciting the wrath of religious editors. The charm of his style and the evident sincerity in his expression account

He was born in Canterbury, England, Feb. 9, 1822, and at the age of five was taken by his widowed mother to New small legacy he had received in England. He taught school awhile in Philadelphia and New York, and while in the latter city wrote an analysis of the famous "Jane Eyre," demonstrating that it was the work of a woman. This essay he sent to The Home Journal, with many misgivings. To his supreme delight, as he of that paper, with editorial approval by N. P. Willis; he sought the latter's acquaintance and resolved to devote his life

His salary on The Home Journal was ten dollars per week for a long time, nor sold in the first "boom," and the work is Butler in New Orleans" in 1863, and the "Life of Benjamin Franklin," Many minor works followed, and in 1873 his "Life of Thomas Jefferson" produced quite a sensation.

In 1881 he published his favorite, the book to which he had devoted all his leisure hours since boyhood, "The Life of Voltaire." This work was his labor of love. Voltaire was his hero. He had studied that author's works as no other American ever did. Critics esteem it his best work, but the general public has not yet taken hold of it as of his biographies of eminent Americans.

In 1856 Mr. Parton married the lady whose pen name was Fanny Fern— Sara Payson Willis, sister of N. P. Willis and widow of Charles S. Eldridge, of Boston. In 1872 she died, and a year or two later he married her daughter and his own stepdaughter, Miss Ellen W. Eldridge. Of course there was a "dis-cussion." Discovering that the marriage in Massachusetts was illegal they removed to New York and had the ceremony performed again. On their return tion." The legislature passed a law Rice vetoed it. The New York marriage, second union was much happier than his first, and his children by that union are years, respectively. He lived in New-buryport, Mass., after 1872 and was an

Published Atlanta's First Daily. Mr. Timothy Burke, one of the publishers of the first daily paper in Atlanta, has recently died in that city of old age.

in 1807, as is believed, and removed to America in 1835. After working in New York as a shoemaker he and a fellow countryman named Michael Lynch made a tour of the south, finally locating in At-

lanta, where they remained friends till parted by death. Mr. Burke lived tended comment, while his trip around for a short time in Newman, Ga. In the world with General Grant has be-George Barton. first general bookstore in Atlanta,

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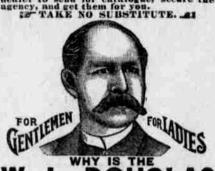
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